

can see where the bulk of the technically recoverable oil is. I was one of four Senators—Senators BINGAMAN, DOMENICI, and then-Senator Talent—who offered the legislation to open lease 181. Lease 181, which is now 8.3 million acres in the gulf, was opened in 2006. That is an additional 8.3 million additional acres opened for oil and gas leasing.

I have also introduced legislation that opens all this additional area in the eastern Gulf of Mexico and off Cuban waters. So do I support drilling? I do. It is just that the minority side does not support it quite as much as they pretend to support it.

Let me describe this chart. These are the waters off Cuba open for leasing. There is half a million barrels of oil a day that could come into production, and our U.S. companies cannot go in there to compete against other nations to drill for it. Spain is there. Canada is there. India is there. China is there. They all have a desire to drill in that water. We cannot go there because our companies are told by President Bush: No, we have an embargo against Cuba; you can't go after this 500,000 barrels of oil a day in these waters because of our embargo against Cuba. That is absurd, absolutely absurd.

I have said often on the floor of the Senate, we stick little straws in this planet as we circle the Sun and we suck out about 86 million barrels of oil a day. We use one-fourth right here on this little place on the planet called the United States. We have a prodigious appetite for oil. That reflects in many ways the economy we built. We have built a wonderful economy. This is a great place to live. There is no place like it on Earth. But divine providence did some strange things. Most of the oil is under the sands halfway around the world in the Persian Gulf, and most of the demand is in the United States. There is more and more demand ahead of us with respect to China and India. We understand that. We knew that 12 to 14 months ago. So that is not what is causing the runup in prices today.

But we all know, if we look ahead, we need to leapfrog to other technologies, even as we search for additional oil. We will drill for more oil in the right places. Obviously, the chart I showed for the Gulf of Mexico has far more than my friends in the minority would aspire to achieve in other regions.

In addition to drilling in an appropriate way, we need much more conservation. Conservation is the easiest and by far the least expensive way to produce energy because we are such unbelievable wasters of energy. So conservation is, first and foremost, the best place to get additional energy.

Second is efficiency. It doesn't matter what you use—a hot water heater, a furnace, an air-conditioner—it doesn't matter what you use. The dramatic increase in efficiency of every appliance everybody uses, including these light bulbs, can substantially reduce our

need for energy. The incandescent light bulb is on its way out. It will not be too many years when we will not find one in this country because we can light America's houses and commercial facilities with about 80 percent savings of what we have been using in the past.

Finally, and most importantly, in my judgment, as we look forward some years, we have to, as a country, decide to get dramatically involved in renewable energy. We are not nearly there yet. We have some movement toward renewable, but we are not doing what we should do. The debate in the Congress has been about whether we should increase the production tax credits, tax incentives by 1 year. That is pathetic. We ought to say we are going to do this for a decade. America, you can count on where we are headed.

In the next decade, we are going to build substantial capability for wind, solar, biomass, and more. We ought to say here is where America is headed for 10 years. We are nibbling around the edges talking about a 1-year extension of this and that. It is not that we have not tried.

We had a longer extension on the floor of the Senate, but regrettably, the minority side largely blocked it. In fact, they have blocked these extensions three times. Our hope is that we as a country will be able to say our policy is conservation, efficiency, yes, drilling in the right places, but our policy is especially to move forward with substantial and dramatic amounts of new renewable energy.

I know the American people look at the Congress from time to time and wonder if anything can get done. There certainly is an urgency with respect to the policies I described—the fiscal policy that is way off track, a trade policy that is producing \$800 billion a year in trade deficits, a policy that has allowed the subprime loan scam to exist and develop right under the nose of regulators who apparently were dead from the neck up. All these things are urgent needs for this country to address. But none is more urgent at the moment than trying to find a way to put some downward pressure on gas and oil prices that have risen out of sight, in my judgment, disconnected to the supply-and-demand fundamentals of where a market ought to be.

Every American is affected by this runup in prices, and our country is being irreparably damaged by what it costs for us to send all this massive money every single day overseas in search of oil that is produced outside our country's borders.

We need a short-term urgent plan and a long-term thoughtful plan to find our way through this situation and put America on a better course for energy.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DHL SELLOUT

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, this summer is turning out to be one of great anxiety and uncertainty for literally thousands of families in southwest Ohio. At this moment, the economic future of more than 8,000 people—8,000 workers and their families—in the Wilmington and surrounding communities hangs in the balance.

DHL, the cargo carrier service, has threatened to shut down its Wilmington hub, a decision that, if successful, threatens both families and surrounding communities. In May, DHL's parent company, the German company Deutsche Post World Net, announced a proposed deal with UPS that would close the Ohio operation.

In 2004, the State of Ohio and the city of Wilmington, a community of 13,000 people, and surrounding counties—Highland County, Greene County, Clark County, and the area around it—proudly laid out the welcome mat for DHL, providing more than \$400 million in incentives only 4 years ago. It was, we thought then, the beginning of a long friendship.

The Wilmington Air Park is the largest employer in a six-county area of Ohio. Literally, in each of the six counties in the region, DHL is the single largest employer. Air Park employees were drawn from 45 counties, more than half of Ohio's 88 counties.

Tomorrow, Americans from across the country will gather around their television sets to enjoy baseball's All Star game in Yankee Stadium. The first pitch will be thrown by Cleveland's All Star pitcher Cliff Lee. During this midsummer classic, fans may notice emblazoned on the walls of Yankee Stadium and on game memorabilia the DHL logo, because DHL is the official carrier of major league baseball. More than 8,000 Ohio workers and their families have helped make DHL a major league player in the North American express delivery business. Their families in the community have supported DHL, worked for DHL, helped build DHL, and State and local governments pitched in, as I said, with \$400 million to build this company and help it thrive in southwest Ohio.

Thankfully, the agreement with UPS and the agreement to shut down is not yet final, and so we fight. This morning, earlier today, Mayor David Raizk, Clinton County Commissioner Randy Riley, and I joined hundreds of DHL, ABX, and Air Star workers to fight for these jobs and this community. Together, I delivered to DHL's headquarters in Wilmington—at their headquarters just outside Wilmington, on the outskirts of Wilmington—I delivered more than 9,000 signatures on petitions to DHL headquarters, petitions

that were denied by DHL management 2 weeks ago when employees and community members tried to deliver them.

DHL needs to hear from these families and they need to understand that good corporate citizenship means more than baseball advertisements and company sponsorships. DHL workers and their families rightfully feel betrayed by the callous decision made by Deutsche Post.

This kind of betrayal does not just eliminate jobs. The community loses revenue, public schools take a hit, the police force, fire department—all take major hits. It is estimated that 10 percent of the Wilmington City school budget is derived from DHL's operations in Wilmington. Hospitals suffer. Clinton Memorial Hospital is a not-for-profit, and people connected with DHL account for a huge percent of their overall operations. They get \$7 million in revenue just from DHL, ABX, and ASTAR, and their overall budget is \$100 million. They don't know how they will be able to continue operations if DHL closes its operations in Wilmington.

There are some 15,000 children of those DHL workers at the Wilmington airport—DHL, ASTAR, and ABX—who will lose their jobs.

Today I stood with the real All Stars, a couple of hundred workers and their families from southwest Ohio at DHL and at their union hall right across the street. In the last few months they have been sending me their stories. I would like to share some of them.

Tara Pratz of Lebanon, a community a few miles from there in Warren County, told me she and her husband relocated to Ohio because they trusted DHL and the promises made to her and workers like her. Reading from her note, she said:

Deutch-Post is nothing more than a corporate terrorist destroying the very lives that built the company.

Kelly Morse of Blanchester also wrote me about moving to Ohio because of the loyalty she felt for DHL. She wrote:

At first we did not want to move, but as a loyal employee I wanted to live close to my employer. DHL needs to be held accountable for the commitments they made to the people, workers, and community of southwest Ohio.

New Vienna resident Beth Carpenter wrote:

My husband is one of the many employees being laid off . . . with the economy the way it is, it is hard enough trying to keep food on the table, let alone to try to do it without a job.

Sherry Barrett, also of New Vienna, wrote, simply:

We are all extremely terrified of what our future holds. . . . We need all of you in our government to fight hard for us and Ohio.

Again, it doesn't need to be this way. DHL has been a good corporate citizen. It can remain a good friend to the people of Ohio. Workers and family members and the community are ready to do whatever it takes—whatever it

takes. This morning in Wilmington it was clear that this community sticks together when times are tough.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. (Mr. CARDIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

HIV/AIDS, TB, AND MALARIA REAUTHORIZATION

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to express my strong support for the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria Reauthorization Act. Although we have made significant headway over the last 5 years, the HIV/AIDS pandemic remains one of the world's worst public health crises, with millions of people infected around the globe and millions more who have already perished. As chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on Africa, and because of the disease's disproportionate impact on sub-Saharan Africa, I would like to focus my remarks today on that region to illustrate just how critical—and urgent—it is that we pass this bill.

Despite some progress, AIDS remains a severe public health concern in Africa. Indeed, HIV continues to spread, with many countries on the continent experiencing unprecedented drops in population, economic decline, decimation of militaries, and the creation of an entire generation of orphans who know no other life but that of the streets. These societal disruptions have profound consequences for the continent's future and security; already, they are impeding development in the part of the world least able to contain the epidemic or treat its victims.

In December 2007, the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS—UNAIDS—reported that worldwide, approximately 35 million people live with HIV/AIDS. Similar organizations report that at the current rate, by 2015 more than 62 million people could become newly infected. Currently, over two-thirds of HIV cases are in Africa, which means there are somewhere between 20 million and 24 million adults and children in that continent who are HIV-positive. And these are just the cases we know of—these are just the reported and documented cases. As a point of comparison, the region with the next highest infection rate is Southeast Asia—with some 4 million individuals living with HIV.

Since 2003 there has been a significant bipartisan effort to address this crisis with the creation of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS—or PEPFAR as it is more commonly known. PEPFAR authorized some \$19 billion over 5 years for HIV/AIDS, tu-

berculosis and malaria and yet in 2007 alone, 2.5 million people around the globe were infected with HIV—or the equivalent of some 6,800 per day, 4,600 of whom live in Africa. And while 4,600 Africans are being infected every day, some 6,000 Africans are dying from AIDS-related illness—many without ever realizing they were HIV-positive or, if they did know, without ever having access to any treatment for their illness. In other words, despite a ground-breaking initiative to raise the profile of the disease, to work with local communities and national health systems, and to coordinate among the international community, Africa's future remains in peril.

HIV/AIDS is spreading in African countries that are already hard hit by a range of other problems including rampant poverty, political instability and a lack of basic services and education. The result is decreased state capacity and an undermining of the development of civil society. HIV does not discriminate, and it is hitting members of Africa's political leadership, its college-trained professionals, and its skilled labor forces. And as it takes its toll on these groups, it is having a devastating effect on entire generations. I saw this firsthand just under a decade ago when I traveled to Zimbabwe, and I have seen it since in other trips to Africa.

At that time, reports were noting that life expectancy had dropped from 65 to 39 because of the epidemic. As I walked past the parliament building in Harare, I asked how old one had to be to become a legislator. The answer? Forty. And now, even as it copes with a new, devastating political and humanitarian crisis, Zimbabwe is experiencing even lower life expectancy rates—37 for men and just 34 for women—even lower than the minimum age to be elected a member of Parliament in that country.

Despite the critical assistance of the United States, the cold hard facts—the numbers of those infected and dying—show that even more help is needed from the international community. Last August, on a trip to Uganda, I met with a number of health experts—from government health workers to civil society representatives—to discuss how the United States can build on the good work that began with PEPFAR, and provide a more vigorous response to the disease.

We discussed what had worked and what had not, and they told me very clearly that in order to put a dent in the devastating impact of this pandemic, we need to focus not only on treatment but equally, if not more, on prevention. They shared examples of why, in order to help those most vulnerable, HIV/AIDS efforts need to include programs that address gender inequity, family planning, food and nutrition, and social stigma. And they were unequivocally clear that we need to work closely with national governments and local communities to help